



# Judson Center

## BACKGROUND

When the doors of Judson Center opened in 1924, no one could have then imagined the impact the agency would have on thousands of lives over the many decades to come. The center began as the Detroit Baptist Children's Home with a single matron overseeing the emotional, physical and spiritual growth of just a few children. Since then, the agency has evolved into a comprehensive, multifaceted, community based human service center - one that has been nationally recognized for fostering independence through innovative programs and for enabling children of all ages and their families to live the best lives possible.



As children and families become more fragmented and victimized by poverty, disabilities, abuse and neglect, Judson Center steps up to the challenge by responding proactively to the community's needs. In 1979, the agency's budget was \$500,000; today its budget exceeds \$17 million. This figure demonstrates that the agency is economically resourceful as well as financially sound, ensuring its future in serving the southeast Michigan community.

Today, Judson Center provides more than 400,000 personalized support services that emphasize community and promote individual and family ability to encourage personal growth and foster independence. These services include autism services, life skills training, respite services, foster care, adoptions, counseling, family preservation services and more.

The success of the agency is evident in the compassionate care it provides children, families and adults, as well as the statistics that rank it among the top human service providers in southeastern Michigan. In 1991, the agency won Crain's Detroit Business' "Best Managed Nonprofit Award." In that same year, the agency received the first ever Peter F. Drucker Award for Non-Profit Innovation. Three years later, Judson Center was a finalist in the Innovations in State and Local Government Award Program, sponsored by The Ford Foundation and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. The Richard Huegli Award, sponsored by United Community Services, has been presented to the agency twice - once in 1994 for its innovative Supported Employment program, and again in 1998 for its Living In Family Environment initiative. In 2007, the Troy Chamber of Commerce presented Judson Center with the Helen eWard for Web Excellence for its Web site. Many Judson Center staff members have received awards and recognition as leaders in their field.

Judson Center provides a comprehensive array of services to help children and their families live better lives, creating positive results that together advance social justice in southeast Michigan. Judson Center is very fortunate for the support received from numerous donors over the years to achieve these results, and needs the community's help to ensure Judson Center can continue to make an impact well into the future. To donate, please call (248)549-4339, or visit [www.judsoncenter.org](http://www.judsoncenter.org).



# Judson Center

## LEADERSHIP



**LENORA HARDY-FOSTER**  
**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Ms. Hardy-Foster joined Judson Center in March 2016. She is responsible for guiding the strategic direction of Judson Center by creating new partnerships, working with the Board and building upon the 92 year legacy of improving lives all while creating a strong, productive community throughout Southeast Michigan.

Lenora Hardy-Foster is an alumna of the University of Detroit Mercy, where she earned her MBA. Her career has been dedicated to social services, primarily at Southwest Solutions and its subsidiaries for the past three decades. Prior to assuming the role of Executive Director, Lenora was the Vice President, Finance and Administration, overseeing the Financial, Human Resources, Information Technology, Risk Management, Health & Safety and Property Management functions. She chaired Southwest Solutions Executive Leadership Team, as well as served on several non-profit corporations governing boards. In addition, Ms. Hardy-Foster is a member of the Detroit Chapter of Financial Executives International (FEI) and past President. She is also a graduate of Leadership Detroit XXIII.

We are thrilled to have her join the Judson Center Family, and know that we will soar to new heights under her leadership. Lenora will tell you that her "family has become much bigger, as now I am a part of your family - the Judson Center family. I look forward to meeting you and making a positive impact in our shared community, together."



# Judson Center

*Helping those in need succeed*

Judson Center is a non-profit human service agency that provides compassionate, comprehensive services to children and families throughout southeast Michigan.

Since opening our doors in 1924, we have grown to provide services to nearly 7,000 children, adults and families each year. We have been changing fates and restoring childhoods for children who have been abused and neglected, and others who are challenged by developmental disabilities, severe emotional impairments and autism spectrum disorder.

Judson Center has remained responsive to these and other community needs by providing a range of innovative and quality services. We are a resource for healing and a leader in human services that delivers brighter futures for those we are privileged to serve.

## Mission:

To provide expert, comprehensive services in southeastern Michigan that strengthen children, adults and families impacted by abuse and neglect, autism, developmental disabilities, and mental health challenges so they are successful in their communities.

## Vision:

We dream of a day when all children and adults are safe and have loving, strong families with the community support they need to make a unique contribution to the world.



**Brighter futures were provided to nearly 7,000 lives impacted.**

**AUTISM CONNECTIONS**

**CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES**

**DISABILITY SERVICES**

**MENTAL HEALTH**

221 children with autism developed new social and life skills

90 children participated in our summer programs

**112 children were supported in finding *forever families* through our adoption program**

**453 youth in foster care had their photos and stories listed on the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) website in pursuit of a *forever family***

**187 foster children were safely tucked into bed for 40,537 days of care**

**798\* families whose children were at risk of removal from their home remained safely with their families**

**115 children were matched with a mentor**

**674\* families were given resources needed to thrive in post-adoption**

845 individuals received life-changing mental health services

288 adults with disabilities enjoyed the dignity of work in the community

96 families received loving respite care for a child with a disability

*\*Numbers represent individual family units.*

## Judson Center Service Programs:



### Judson Center

#### AUTISM CONNECTIONS

Autism Connections takes a comprehensive family approach designed to embrace the needs of all family members affected by an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis. Cutting-edge, evidence-based therapy, applied behavioral analysis is changing lives each day at Judson Center.

We provide: Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Parent Counseling, Sibshops (support group for siblings), Summer Programs, Social Groups and Transitions Program with the Berkley School District and Plymouth-Canton School District and our own Vocational Services Program.

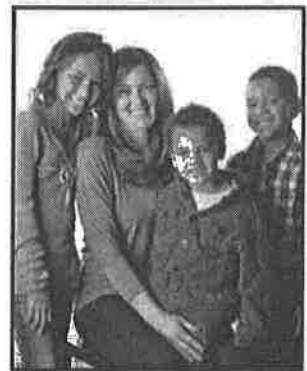


### Judson Center

#### CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

Guided by the belief that every child deserves a safe, permanent, and loving family where they can grow up to be happy and productive members of their communities, Judson Center has been providing family preservation, foster care and adoption since we opened our doors in 1924.

We provide: Foster Care, Treatment Foster Care, Family Reunification Program (FRP), Building Community Partnerships (BCP), Mentoring, Adoption, Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE), Adoption Resource Consultants (ARC), Post Adoption Resource Center (PARC) and Early Head Start.



### Judson Center

#### DISABILITY SERVICES

Judson Center changes the lives of individuals with disabilities by providing services and the support needed to live as independently as possible, find autonomy through employment, and enjoy the opportunities to recreate in the community with friends, truly becoming vital contributing members of their community.

We provide: Vocational Services and Respite Care.



### Judson Center

#### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental Health Services provides pioneering approaches to improve mental health, end crisis and prevent their recurrence. We hold the fundamental belief that individuals and families with mental, behavioral or emotional disorders can live productive and rewarding lives, and deserve high quality treatment in an environment free of stigma and judgment.

We provide: Outpatient Therapy, In-Home Therapy, Case Management, Peer Support and Psychiatric Services.

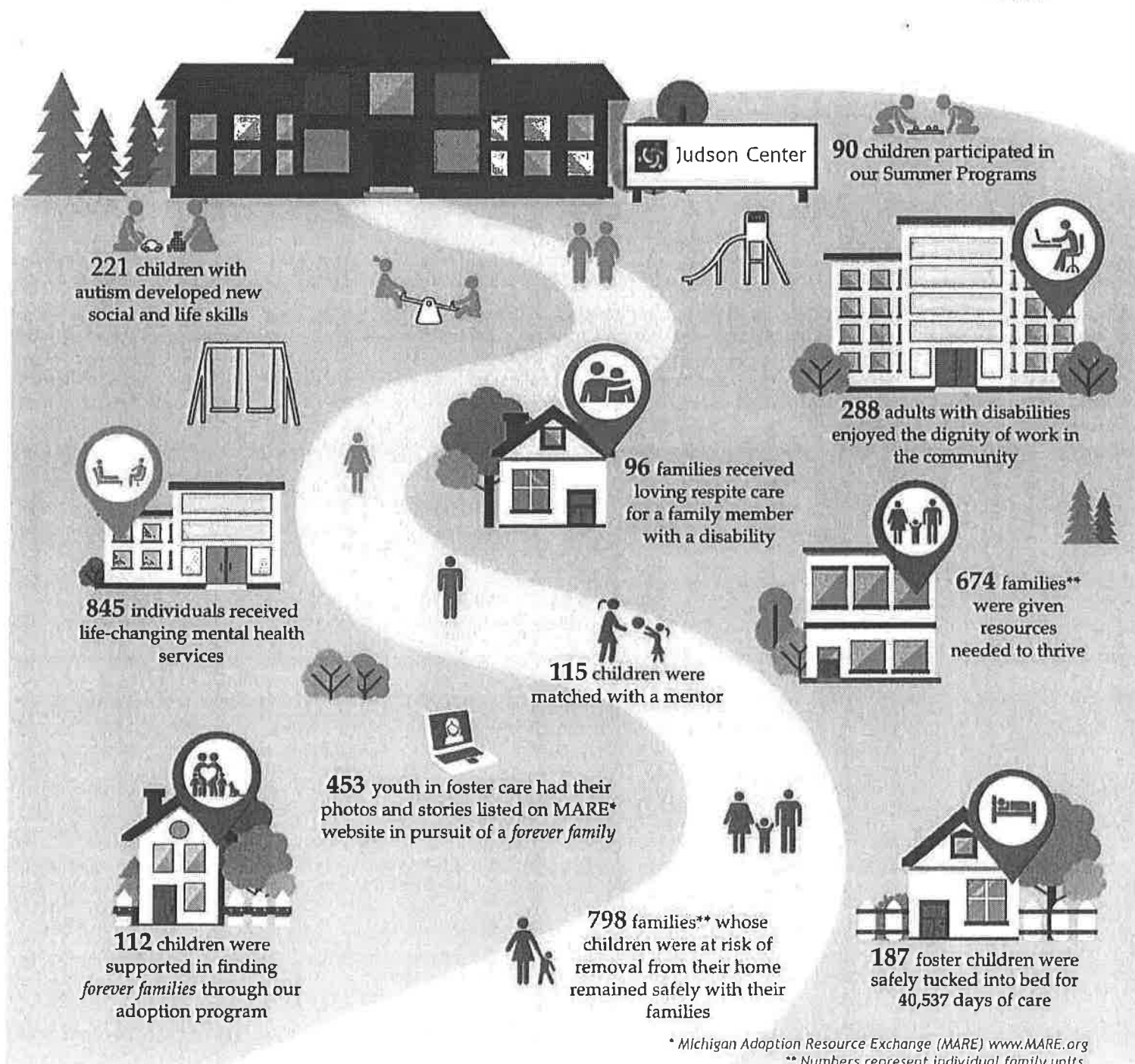
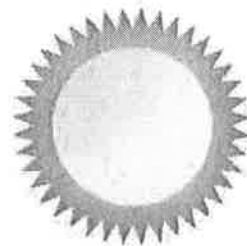




# Judson Center

## DELIVERING BRIGHTER FUTURES

Nearly 7,000 lives impacted in 2016



## OUR MISSION

To provide expert, comprehensive services in southeastern Michigan that strengthen children, adults and families impacted by abuse and neglect, autism, developmental disabilities and mental health challenges so they are successful in their communities.



## Judson Center AUTISM CONNECTIONS

**OUR MISSION** *The mission of Judson Center's Autism Connections is to provide therapeutic, behavior and support services to meet the ever-changing needs of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families.*



**CALL OR EMAIL TODAY  
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

### OUR LOCATIONS

#### ROYAL OAK (OAKLAND)

##### *Headquarters*

4410 W. 13 Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48073  
P: 248.837.2047  
E: [autismconnectionsoakland@judsoncenter.org](mailto:autismconnectionsoakland@judsoncenter.org)

#### ANN ARBOR (WASHTENAW)

Jewish Community Center of  
Greater Ann Arbor  
2935 Birch Hollow Drive  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
P: 734.528.2003  
E: [acwash@judsoncenter.org](mailto:acwash@judsoncenter.org)

## Judson Center's Autism Connections

At Judson Center's Autism Connections, we realize that an Autism diagnosis impacts the entire family, not just the family member with Autism. That's why we offer a comprehensive approach, designed to embrace the individual needs of those with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families from age two through early adulthood. We offer a comprehensive array of individual and group services designed to enhance the lives of children, teens and young adults with ASD and their families.

### **APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS**

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is an evidence-based therapy based upon the principles and techniques that can foster basic skills such as looking, listening and imitating, as well as complex skills such as reading, conversing and understanding another person's perspective. Other skills may include functional behaviors and daily living skills.

#### **ABA might be a good fit if:**

- Your child was recently diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and you would like to work on developing pre-academic and functional behavior skills.
- Your child or teenager has challenging behavior that impacts his or her ability to learn in traditional settings.
- Your child was previously involved in an ABA program and you would like them to continue to develop skills.

### **INSURANCE**

Private insurance is accepted for ABA and counseling services. Thanks to our partnership with Easter Seals of Michigan, we are able to provide ABA services to children under the age of six with Medicaid in Oakland County.

### **THERAPEUTIC SERVICES**

Our therapeutic services are outcome-based with focus on the specific needs and interest of the individual with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Our groups include typical peers. The following options are available:

- Social Skills Groups
- Individual Counseling
- Summer Programs
- Facilitated Playdates

### **COUNSELING AND FAMILY SUPPORT**

Autism impacts the entire family. We have many support services available for each family member. The following programs are available:

- Family Events
- Sibshops
- Parent Training Workshops
- Mom's Support Group
- Individual and Family Counseling
- Kids Night In/Parent's Day Out



*All behavior services are supervised by a master level Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).*





# Judson Center

*Reprint from the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan,  
Report, Volume 29 / Issue 1 March 2015*

## VOCATIONAL SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH AUTISM

Autism is a growing problem. More than 50,000 adults with autism live in Michigan. A 10-17 percent yearly increase in diagnoses nationally makes it the fastest growing developmental disability in the country. Helping people with autism to live productive and independent lives is an important social and public health priority. The Community Foundation made several grants in 2014 aimed at helping nonprofit organizations increase and diversify their services to the many families and individuals affected by autism.

Judson Center received a \$25,000 grant to help adults with autism compete in today's job market. Currently, 90 percent of all adults with autism are believed to be unemployed or underemployed. A partnership among Judson Center, Oakland University's Center for Autism and the Autism Alliance of Michigan brings together powerful resources to address some of the unique needs of autistic jobseekers, and provides the support they need to be successful in the workplace.

Job coaching and supportive employment are among the services offered. Currently, there is a laundry service - a small business venture on the campus of Oakland University - that's operated by individuals with disabilities. The long-term goal is to open three to five small businesses that will provide viable employment opportunities to adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Another resource for autistic individuals, Play-Place for Autistic Children, received \$50,000 for training autistic adults to work at their Sterling Heights facility. The play-based therapy organization offers a fun-filled, judgment-free haven for families affected by autism. The grant, says Shell Jones, the parent of an autistic child and founder of Play-Place, "will help young men and women build independence, self-esteem and a better quality of life." More information can be found at [autisticplayplace.org](http://autisticplayplace.org).

"With the increases in autism diagnoses, it is crucial that we provide employment opportunities to those with autism and other disabilities, not only for today, but for the future." - Bradford Ewing, Judson Center



## Mental Health has a New Home

Judson Center's Mental Health Services is growing and to help meet the demands of our community, we moved! We did not move far, but our new location allows us to make a positive impact for *many* more people.

As of this month, we are now located right on 13 Mile Road in Warren. This will make it lucky number three on Thirteen Mile - Lahser Respite Home at 13 Mile and Lahser, Oakland County Regional Office (Headquarters) on 13 Mile and Greenfield and finally Macomb Regional Office on 13 Mile and Hoover. Many thanks to our community partner, The Sterling Group for this opportunity

And, with a new house comes more space and room to grow, and we have plans just for that.

In the future, we see our Macomb Regional Office as home to a primary care clinic with a team of medical assistants, registered nurses, nurse practitioners, case managers, therapists and psychiatrists who work together to ensure the mental and physical health care needs of children and adults that we serve are being met. Last but not least, there will also be room to expand our Autism Connections services in Macomb.

The life experiences of a Certified Peer Support Specialist give a distinctive expertise that professional training cannot teach or replicate. Their services are so invaluable to someone who needs help, as they work as a mentor and help remove any 'barriers' to successful treatment recovery.

be time to settle in, meet the neighbors and time to grow. We look forward to making our house a home for Macomb County children, adolescent and adults in need of mental health and/or substance abuse treatment.

Just like a new home, there will

Macomb Regional Office  
12200 13 Mile Road  
Suite 200  
Warren, MI 48093  
586.573.1810

With the need for Mental Health services growing and the opportunity to expand, along with a grant from the Flinn Foundation, we have hired a Certified Peer Support Specialist (CPSS). What make this hiring so unique is that Judson Center now has in-house employee who has progressed in their own recovery from a substance or mental health disorder and are willing to self-identify as a peer and work to assist other individuals with chemical dependency or a mental health disorder to help them get on the road to recovery as well.

New home blueprints with room-to-grow.  
Future long-term plans may include an addition of a  
PRIMARY CARE CLINIC







## Judson Center DISABILITY SERVICES

### AM I ELIGIBLE?

Respite is offered through Macomb Oakland Regional Center (MORC), and BHPI Consumerlink.

Respite services can be privately paid or contracted through other agencies in conjunction with MORC and BHPI Consumerlink.

### CONTACT US:

**Lahser Respite Home**  
31111 Lahser Road  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
Phone: (248)-646-1297

### WHAT PARENTS SAY:

*"Finding Lahser Respite Home was like a breath of fresh air. I had never left my son anywhere so naturally at first I was concerned with how he would feel because he cannot verbalize his feelings. I knew after meeting with the home manager that my son would be safe, well cared for and in the local area in case I felt the need to check on him."*

- Respite Parent

[www.judsoncenter.org](http://www.judsoncenter.org)



## Our Mission

To provide expert, comprehensive services in southeastern Michigan that strengthen children, adults and families impacted by abuse and neglect, autism, developmental disabilities and mental health challenges so they are successful in their communities.

## RESPITE CARE

### TEMPORARY RELIEF TO FAMILIES

**Respite is a period of relief** - temporary relief from the intense care often required in nurturing someone with a developmental disability or autism.

Anyone who has ever cared for such a child knows that it takes more than simply love to assure the child's safety, health and happiness.

### WE CAN HELP

Judson Center's Lahser Respite Home will be there to help when:

- You or a family member has a medical condition that requires attention.
- You need to leave town to attend to business, visit with relatives, or take a vacation.
- You just need a break from your daily stress and demands.



### LAHSER RESPITE HOME

Lahser Respite Home is a large ranch style home nestled in the community consisting of three spacious bedrooms, a living room, playroom, kitchen, dining area, and a fenced in play area.

The children who utilize the home are between the ages of 6 and 17 and have a diagnosed developmental disability. They may also be medically involved, have mental challenges, or physical impairments.

**What if the person with special needs is not used to being away from home?**

The Lahser Respite Home is a licensed facility that is safe, comfortable, and as "family-like" as possible. The home is barrier free and staffed by highly trained, attentive, and compassionate individuals.

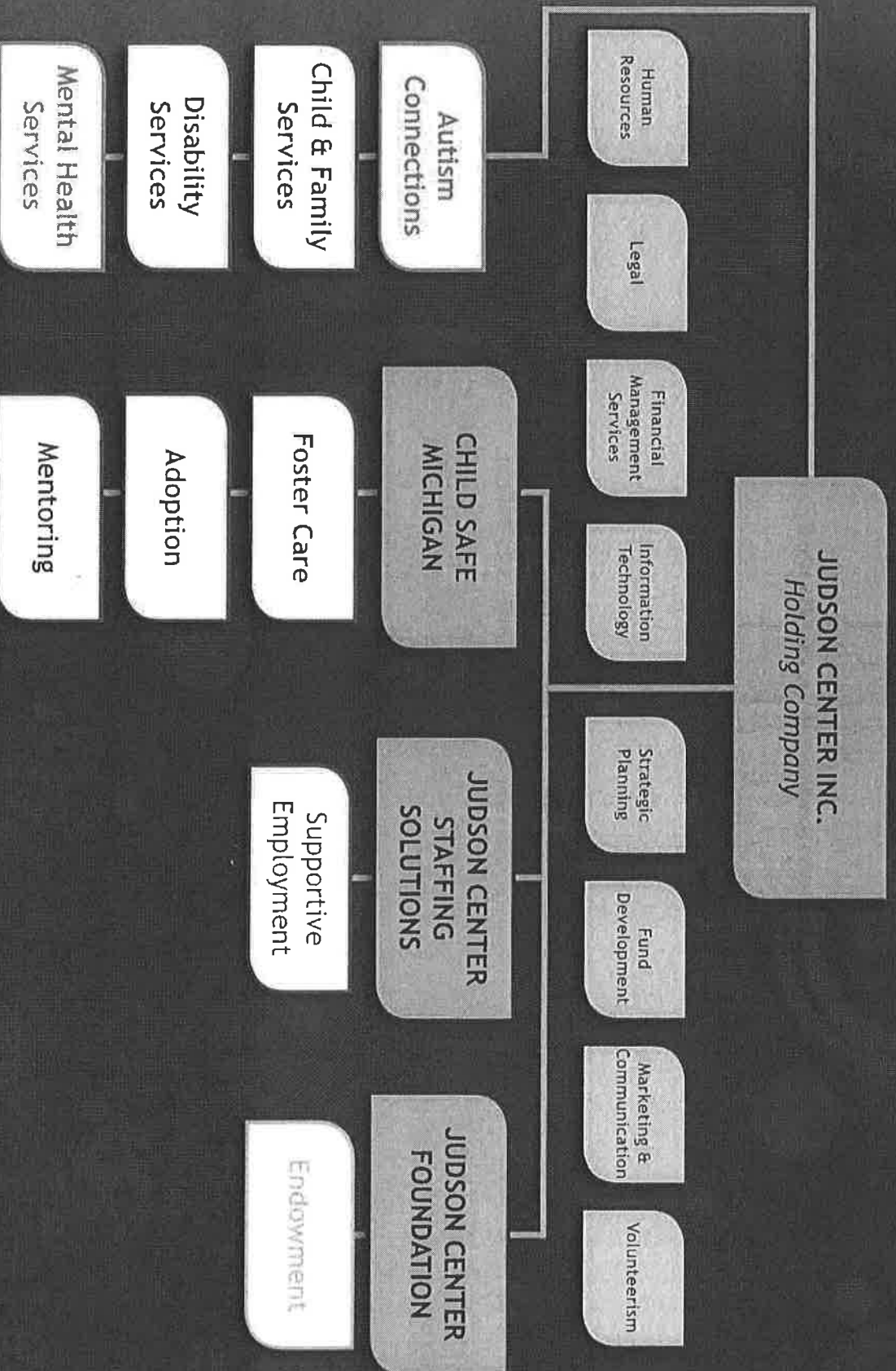
**Lahser Respite Home provides a consistent, daily routine for guests in order to provide them with a sense of security.**

Staff learn the specific needs and desires of each guest and follow the guidelines established in their plan of service. The guests will enjoy daily activities, community outings, socialization with other guests and staff, and have the chance to make new friends. This experience allows for growth and supports each individual's independence.



Judson Center

## CORPORATE STRUCTURE





**Judson Center**

## PROGRAM SERVICES

**Genesee  
Regional Office**

Post Adoption  
Resource Center

Building Community  
Partners

**Macomb  
Regional Office**

Early Head Start

Families First

Building Community  
Partners

**Oakland  
Regional Office**

Autism

Child Safe Michigan

Respite Care

**Washtenaw  
Regional Office**

Adoption Navigators

Autism

Michigan Adoption  
Resource Exchange

Post Adoption  
Resource Center

Adoption  
Resource Consultants

**Wayne  
Regional Office**

Adoption

Building Community  
Partners

Families First

Families Together  
Building Solutions

Foster Care /  
Treatment Foster Care

Family  
Reunification  
Program

Vocational Services

### Other Counties Served:

Allegan, Barry,  
Berrien, Branch,  
Calhoun, Cass,  
Clinton, Eaton,  
Gratiot, Hillsdale,  
Huron, Ingham,  
Jackson, Kalamazoo,  
Lapeer, Lenawee,  
Livingston, Monroe,  
Muskegon, Ottawa,  
Sanilac, St. Clair,  
St. Joseph, Tuscola,  
Van Buren

## TESTIMONY

**Presented By: Lenora Hardy-Foster, President/CEO  
Judson Center of Oakland County**

**10/5/17**

**Presented To: Senate Oversight Committee**

**Subject: Senate Bills 529 and 530**

Good morning Senator McGregor and the Senate Oversight Committee. My name is **Lenora Hardy-Foster, President and CEO of Judson Center of Oakland County**. I am delighted to have the opportunity to talk with you about the many services Judson Center provides to children and families as well as share challenges that we experience regarding the Child Care Fund.

**Judson Center** has been a part of the fabric of our community for over 93 years. We started out as an orphanage in 1924 and stayed true to our roots as we still help children. Today's Judson Center is a multi-faceted human services agency that has evolved to help meet the needs of our community in five regional counties, Genesee, Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne. We impact nearly 7,000 lives through innovative and quality programming within our four core services: Child & Family Services, Disability Services, Mental Health Services and Autism Connections.

**CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES** – There are over 13,000 children in Michigan's foster care system, with 300 waiting to be adopted. We serve 1800 children and families annually through our continuum of Child Welfare programs serving children and families in twenty five Michigan counties, in addition to serving children statewide through the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange program.

**DISABILITY SERVICES** - Providing services to adults and children through distinct services.

- Vocational Services- Community based skill building, job coaching and job placement services to approximately 300 adults with developmental disabilities.
- Children's Respite Care- 24 hour center-based care for children and youth with developmental disabilities serving nearly 100 children annually.

**MENTAL HEALTH** - Currently 900 children and adults are served through our Mental Health Services Outpatient and Home-Based programs annually that are offered in three counties and funded through the commercial insurance and local County Community Mental Health.

**AUTISM CONNECTIONS** - Provides autism services to approximately 125 children and youth annually consisting of Applied Behavior Analysis, Social Skills Groups and Family Support Services in Royal Oak and Ann Arbor.

Judson Center continues to experience challenges in the Child Care Fund payment system which delays the reimbursements for services provided. This significantly impacts our ability to manage the program effectively, generates cash flow problems and puts undue stress on the program and financial staff that are tracking and following up on outstanding payments. Staff time should be spent on providing quality services to children and families. **We support Senate Bill No. 529 and 530 "State Pays First Model".**